

Resurrection of the Church in Albania: An Inspiring Missionary Endeavor

Rev Luke Veronis

Fr. Luke A. Veronis pastors the Sts Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Webster, MA, serves as the Director for the Missions Institute of Orthodoxy Christianity, which is located at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, and teaches as an adjunct instructor at both Holy Cross and Hellenic College. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC), and the Overseas Ministries Study Center (OMSC) in New Haven.

Fr. Luke has been involved in the Orthodox Church's missionary movement since 1987. Together with his wife Presbyteria Faith, he served as a long-term missionary in Albania for ten and a half years, and as a short-term missionary in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ghana for eighteen months. He has recently led short-term mission teams from his church to work with Project Mexico in building homes for the desperately poor in Tijuana, Mexico.

His published works include *Go Forth: A Journal of Missions and Resurrection in Albania* (2010) *Lynette's Hope: The Witness of Lynette Katherine Hoppe's Life and Death* (2008) and *Missionaries, Monks, and Martyrs: Making Disciples of All Nations* (1994).

Fr. Luke graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary's School of World Mission (ThM in Missiology), Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (MDiv) and Pennsylvania State University (BS in Secondary Education/Mathematics). He and his wife, Presbyteria Faith, have four children.

Albania was the only country in the world where all religion was forbidden for 24 years. In 1991, His Beatitude Archbishop Anastasios began the work of resurrecting an ancient church, while proclaiming the gospel to the majority of the country that had never heard the gospel. The past 20 years has seen a dynamic and holistic mission and outreach. Come and learn about this exciting story.